



British Dodgeball Regulations 2017/18

This document was amended on 5/10/17

A. Club and Team Membership

- 1) To compete in a British Dodgeball ranking event or league in 2017/18 a team must belong to a club that is a member of British Dodgeball for 2017/18. Club membership is not required to enter non-ranking events.
- 2) All clubs that are British Dodgeball members must have a unique club name, by which they should be members of British Dodgeball.
- 3) Clubs may have as many teams as they like registered to their club for British Dodgeball events. Only teams listed as 2017/18 British Dodgeball league teams will be able to compete in league competitions, and teams may only be registered to one club. Club teams will be invited by British Dodgeball to participate in the 2017/18 British Dodgeball leagues.
- 4) Every team name within a club must be unique. A team may only change their name once they have received permission to do so in writing from British Dodgeball.

B. Player Affiliation and Eligibility

- 1) Individual players must be a member of a British Dodgeball member club in order to participate in British Dodgeball ranking events and leagues. Participation includes being a named substitute at an event.
- 2) All players are encouraged to take up British Dodgeball junior or adult membership. British Dodgeball junior or adult membership is not a requirement to participate in British Dodgeball events.
- 3) British Dodgeball will hold a database of all players with British Dodgeball membership and all players who have competed in British Dodgeball events.
- 4) Players may be a member of more than one British Dodgeball member club, however they may only participate for a maximum of one community club and one university club in British Dodgeball leagues and ranking events in 2017/18. The club for which a player competes in leagues and ranking events is referred to as their "main club".
- 5) Transfer requests to change a player's main club will be considered on a case by case basis and should be sent in writing to the British Dodgeball Head of Rules and Disciplinary.
- 6) Participating in league or ranking events for more than one club during 2017/18 (September 2017 until June 2018) without having had a transfer request approved by British Dodgeball will result in disciplinary action for the player and clubs involved as decided by the British Dodgeball Sanctions Committee.



- 7) For teams competing in British Dodgeball leagues during 2017/18, clubs will be required to submit a roster of all players selected to play in each team in advance of the first league meet.
- 8) At the beginning of every British Dodgeball event, the completion of a team sheet will be required for each participating team. If a team has not completed their team sheet prior to their first scheduled match, they may not be allowed to participate in that match, alongside any subsequent matches until a team sheet is completed.
- 9) There is no limit to the number of players who may be registered to one team. However, a maximum of 10 players may be listed on the team sheet at any one event, and any awards, medals or prizes will be limited to 10 per qualifying team.
- 10) Matches at British Dodgeball events will be 6 a side. A team requires a minimum of 4 registered players present in order to be permitted to play. If a team is unable to field 4 players, the match will be forfeited.
- 11) All British Dodgeball events should clearly state on their online entry page whether they are league, ranking, or non-ranking (generally “open”) events.
- 12) Women are permitted to compete in men’s events. However, they may only have one main community club (and one main university club where applicable) across all competitions – therefore their main community club for men’s events must be the same as their main community club for women’s events.
- 13) University players are permitted to compete in both university and community events, and can have a main community club and a main university club.

C. British Dodgeball Leagues and Ranking Events

- 1) British Dodgeball Leagues and ranking events will run from beginning of October 2017 to end of June 2018.
- 2) For the 2017/18 season, at least the following British Dodgeball adult leagues are proposed, all using British Dodgeball Five Ball Rules:
 - a. The Men’s Community Dodgeball Superleague
 - b. The Women’s Community Dodgeball Superleague
 - c. The Men’s Community Dodgeball National Division 1
 - d. The Men’s Community Dodgeball National Division 2
 - e. The Women’s Community Dodgeball National Division 1
 - f. The Men’s University Dodgeball League North
 - g. The Men’s University Dodgeball League South
 - h. The Men’s University Dodgeball League West Midlands
 - i. The Men’s University Dodgeball League East Midlands
 - j. The Men’s University Dodgeball League South West



- k. The Women's University Dodgeball League Midlands
 - l. The Women's University Dodgeball League South
 - m. The Scottish Dodgeball Superleague
 - n. The Men's Welsh Dodgeball Superleague
 - o. The Irish Dodgeball Superleague
 - p. The Irish Dodgeball Division 1
 - 3) British Dodgeball community leagues will only be open to community teams and university leagues will only be open to university teams. Other ranking events will clearly specify on the event entry page whether they may be entered by community teams, university teams, or both.
 - 4) At the end of the league season a final ranking of teams will be available from league positions, and this will determine the basis by which leagues will be structured for the following season. This ranking will use the following criteria:
 - a. Where leagues are not split into regions, the bottom two finishers in one league will be ranked lower than the top two teams in the next league down.
 - b. Where leagues are not split into regions, the bottom two finishers in one league will be ranked higher than the third placed team in the next league down.
 - c. Where leagues are split into regions, a team in one region will be grouped with the teams finishing in the equivalent positions in the other regional league. Of these teams, the team with the greatest number of points per match during the league season will be ranked higher. This ranking will be superseded by results at any finals days where these exist.
 - 5) Multiple teams from the same club are permitted to participate in any British Dodgeball league – including second teams taking up spots alongside their first teams in superleagues. Where multiple teams are in the same league, within-club transfers across the season will be monitored closely.
- D. British Dodgeball Non-Ranking Events
- 1) Non-ranking events are any competitions where there are no eligibility requirements. Players do not have to play for their main club.
 - 2) Non-ranking events will clearly specify on the event entry page whether they are open to university players, community players, or both.
 - 3) The majority of non-ranking British Dodgeball adult events will be played to British Dodgeball Five Ball Rules. Where an event instead plays to British Dodgeball Three Ball Rules, this will be clearly specified on the event entry page on the British Dodgeball website.
 - 4) Non-ranking events will follow a standard structure, beginning with pre-announced, unseeded groups. When group play has finished, the teams finishing at the top of these groups will progress to the knockout stages (usually quarter finals onwards).



- 5) All non-ranking events will feature both Men's and Women's competitions. These competitions will usually take place on the same day.

E. University Event Eligibility

- 1) University leagues, university ranking events and university non-ranking events are only open to British Dodgeball-affiliated university clubs/ players.
- 2) To be eligible to play in a University event, a player must currently be enrolled in a University or education institution course, and must be able to produce a valid student ID card on request.
- 3) The University team for which a player competes in ranking events must be the only British Dodgeball university team that the player is registered for.
- 4) Players eligible to play in university events are permitted to have both a university main club and a community main club. For any ranking event or competition open to both university and community teams, players may not play for both their main university club and main community club. For any questions please contact hello@britishdodgeball.com.
- 5) A player may only play for a team belonging to a different University or education institution to the one at which they are enrolled if their university does not have a British Dodgeball-member team, and only after having requested special permission in writing from British Dodgeball. Please note that choosing to play for a university team different to the university to which the player is enrolled will remove the player's option to also play for a community team.

F. The National Cup

- 1) The National Cup will take place throughout the 2017/18 season, with a number of initial rounds played locally (hosted by clubs), followed by a finals day hosted by British Dodgeball in May 2018.
- 2) The National Cup is a ranking event open to all British Dodgeball member clubs and universities, and will include a separate men's and women's cup competition. The closing date for entry will be the 27th October 2017.
- 3) Each club may submit a maximum of three teams into round one of The National Cup (for each of the men's and women's competitions), and may list any number of players in any one team. Transfers requests to move between teams at the same club should be sent to the British Dodgeball Head of Rules and Disciplinary. Players may only compete for one team in each round of the competition.



- 4) All teams will be guaranteed a minimum of two National Cup rounds, with any team losing their first round match being entered into a plate cup competition.
- 5) All entry fees from the National Cup will be donated to The Dodgeball Foundation. The Dodgeball Foundation provides opportunities for disadvantaged groups to become more active through the sport of dodgeball by providing much needed equipment, resources and funding
- 6) The dates for the local rounds of The National Cup are as follows. With agreement from both teams, teams may request to play their fixture not during these weekends but before the round deadline by emailing hello@britishdodgeball.com at least one week in advance of the round deadline.
 - a. Round 1: 11th and 12th November 2017 (round deadline midnight November 12th)
 - b. Round 2: 10th and 11th February 2018 (round deadline midnight February 11th)
 - c. Round 3: 28th and 29th April 2018 (round deadline midnight April 29th)
- 7) Draw dates will become available once the number of participating teams is known.
- 8) On entering the competition, teams will be allocated to a region by British Dodgeball. The regions will be: Scotland, North England, East Midlands, West Midlands, London & South England, South West England, South East & East England, Wales, Ireland.
- 9) Where possible, teams competing in the first two rounds will play teams from within their region. In these rounds, each team will be drawn as either the “home” or “away” team. Teams may be asked to travel beyond their region if there are not enough teams within their region to make up the necessary fixtures. Where travel time to a fixture from a club’s registered address would exceed 1h30 each way, the home team should source and propose a venue closer to the away team such that where possible this journey time is not exceeded.
- 10) The “home” team will be responsible for providing and financing a venue and equipment for that round. The home team is encouraged to liaise with other teams in their region also hosting an event in that round.
- 11) Competition format will be two fifteen minute halves separated by a five minute interval, playing to British Dodgeball Five Ball rules. To allow sufficient time for warm-up and any stoppages, it is therefore required that the home team books one court for at least a 1h30 period.
- 12) The date, times, and location of any tie must be agreed by both teams, and British Dodgeball must be notified in writing of this by both team captains. British Dodgeball will provide at least one referee for each tie. Each team will be required to provide assistant referees.
- 13) Any teams failing to play their tie in time may risk losing their space in the competition. If British Dodgeball do not believe that either team has committed sufficient



effort into arranging the tie, a losing team from that round with the highest points may be reinstated in their place for the next round of the competition.

G. National Championships 2018 and British Championships 2018

- 1) The National Championships and the British Championships tournaments will be ranking events and will take place following the conclusion of the league season. Qualification for the British Championships will be solely via the National Championships.
- 2) All English teams will be allocated to either the Welsh & South West England Championships, or the English Championships, by British Dodgeball, based on the county in which the club is registered.
- 3) Clubs located in Herefordshire, Gloucestershire, Somerset, Devon, Dorset and Cornwall will be allocated to the Welsh and South West England Championships. Any clubs located in any other English counties will be allocated to the English Championships.
- 4) Qualification places to the Men's British Championships will be:
 1. Lutterworth Meteors
 2. English Champions
 3. English Runners Up
 4. English 3rd Place
 5. Irish Champions
 6. Irish Runners Up
 7. Scottish Champions
 8. Welsh Champions

Qualification places to the Women's British Championships will be:

1. Bedford Mighty Eagles
2. English Champions
3. English Runners Up
4. English 3rd Place
5. English 4th Place
6. Irish Champions
7. Scottish Champions
8. Welsh Champions

If Lutterworth Meteors finish in the top 3 of the Men's English Championships and/or Bedford Mighty Eagles finish in the top 4 in the Women's English Championships then the 4th place finisher in the Men's English Championship and 5th place finisher in the Women's English Championship will qualify for the British Championships.



h. Club Registration and Transfers

- 1) Clubs featuring teams invited to participate in British Dodgeball community and university leagues in 2017/18 must submit a squad list of the players they expect to field in 2017/18 leagues and ranking events to the British Dodgeball Head of Rules and Disciplinary (jess@britishdodgeball.com) by midnight on Friday 13th October. This list must contain a minimum of six players per team.
- 2) At the beginning of every league event, the completion of a team sheet will be required by each team. All players from the squad list who are fielded by or substitutes for that team on that day must be listed on the team sheet. Only players for whom that team's club is the player's main community or university club are permitted to play for a team in a league event. If a team has not completed their team sheet prior to their first scheduled match, they may not be allowed to participate and that match may be forfeited, alongside any subsequent matches until a team sheet is completed.
- 3) If a team competing in the British Dodgeball leagues fails to submit a squad list and payment by the relevant deadlines, they may be docked one point for every 24 hour period until both their squad list and payment have both been received. A delay of more than seven working days may result in the team or teams being removed from the league.
- 4) A club becomes a player's main club as soon as they are first listed on a matchday team sheet for that club in a league or ranking event.
 - i. A player's main club will remain their main club (and the only club they can play for in ranking competitions and leagues unless they are eligible to have both a university main club and a community main club) until end of June 2018. Transfer requests to change a player's main club will be considered on a case by case basis and should be sent in writing to the British Dodgeball Head of Rules and Disciplinary.
- 5) Eligible players may be added to a club's squad list throughout the season. The names of any players to be added should be sent to the British Dodgeball Head of Rules and Disciplinary via email by midnight on the Wednesday before the first competition that the added player will participate in.
- 6) Transferring between teams at the same club is permitted during the course of a league or ranking competition.
 - a. For ranking competitions and all but the "final rounds" of the British Dodgeball leagues, players on a club's squad list may transfer between teams at the same club without requiring permission from British Dodgeball. A player may only play for one team in a single round of fixtures. A team's team sheet at the start of each ranking competition or league fixture will be considered notification of any within-club transfers.



period that will be timed by the referee. At events with two fifteen minute halves, participating teams will be guaranteed a minimum of 2 scheduled matches.

4) Where a match is British Dodgeball Five Ball rules and comprised of two eight minute halves, 25 minutes will be allowed per match. This includes a 5 minute warm-up period that will be timed by the referee. At events with two eight minute halves, participating teams will be guaranteed a minimum of 4 scheduled matches.

5) Where a match is British Dodgeball Three Ball rules and comprised of two six minute halves, 20 minutes will be allowed per match. This includes a 5 minute warm-up period that will be timed by the referee. At events with two six minute halves, participating teams will be guaranteed a minimum of 3 scheduled matches.

6) Event entry is available through the British Dodgeball website only, and payment must be made in order to confirm entry. Event entry will close at midnight on the Monday before the weekend of the event, or when all competition spaces are filled, whichever is sooner.

7) No refunds are available for event entry, but an entry credit will be issued to any team who withdraws from an event prior to the event entry Monday deadline. Following the event deadline, the full entry fee will be forfeited by any team who withdraws from or does not attend the event.

j. Assistant officials

1) It is a requirement for all teams competing in British Dodgeball events to be able to provide a minimum of 4 (usually 5) assistant officials during any match in which they are not playing. Any instances of teams failing to do so will be reviewed by the British Dodgeball sanctions committee and may result in points deductions or other sanctions.

2) Where 5 assistant officials are required, this will usually involve:

a. 1 x assistant centre referee

They will support the head referee and take up position on the opposite side of the court to the head referee. Teams should put forward their most experienced players/ referees as assistant centre referees, though referees qualifications are not required. Assistant centre referees are in charge of the side of the court to their left and will call "play ball" and lead on calling "hits", "catches", and other "outs" for this side of the court. They are able to make calls directly, not just through the head referee.

b. 2 x ball return line officials

Assistant officials acting as "ball return line officials" should be positioned on the left side of each team's half of the court, next to the ball return line. Their main role is to check for ball return line faults - for instance, false start offences (a false start only becomes a false start offence if the individual moves in any way/



enters court before the whistle AND advances past the ball return line), and balls not being made live when returning to court via a retriever or spectator/ following the opening rush (in these cases the ball must be received by a player with both feet in contact with the ground and fully behind the ball return line). They should make the head referee aware of any dead balls that have been released, and where possible warn a team that a ball is not yet live. They may also call players "out" for hits, catches and other offences, and are able to make calls directly, not just through the head referee.

- c. 2 x back line officials
 - d. Assistant officials acting as "back line officials" should be positioned on the right side of each team's half of the court, by the back line. Their main role is to check for back line faults - a player is "out" if they touch on or over the back line with any part of their body or clothing. They should call players "out" for any such offences, and may also call players "out" for hits, catches, and other offences. They are able to make calls directly, not just through the head referee. They are also looking for "false starts" - so where a player moves in any way or direction following the call to be "ready" but before the whistle, or where a player is positioned over the back line following the call to be "ready" but before the whistle. They should flag this to the ball return line official who will confirm whether the ball return line was crossed.
- 3) Please note that where the playing teams require the assistant officials to act as "basic retrievers", the "ball return line officials" will be used for this purpose.

k. Forfeits

- 1) Where a player or team wishes to forfeit a set they should leave the court with one hand in the air and ask the referee to "re-set". There is no limit to how early or late in a set a set may be forfeited. Forfeiting will result in a score of 0 players on court for the team forfeiting.
- 2) An official registration time will be set for all British Dodgeball events. All participating players are expected to be at the venue by this time. Teams must not enter the sports hall more than 30 minutes in advance of the official registration time. Contraventions to these rules may result in sanctions for the offending teams.
- 3) If a team fails to attend an event they were scheduled to compete in, they will forfeit the match(es) that they were scheduled to play. The score will be a 20-0 win to the opposing team, with all set scores 6 players to nil.
 - a. Where a team fails to attend two or more rounds of league fixtures, the British Dodgeball sanctions committee reserves the right to discount any scores against the forfeiting team from the league table and to void any of the forfeiting team's own points.
- 4) The first three minute period of the match will begin at the end of the 5-minute warm-up time following the match start time. Any team that is not present by this time (or present with insufficient players to compete) will forfeit that period, and any following



three minute period that they are not lined up on court at the beginning of, with a score of 6 players to nil to the opposing team, or nil-nil players if both teams are not present. After three consecutive forfeited sets by the same team in any match, that team will forfeit the match.

- 5) For any match in which a team has fielded any number of ineligible players, this will be seen as the offending team forfeiting this match. The revised score will be a 20-0 win to the non-forfeiting team, with all set scores 6 players to nil.
- 6) In the instance that both teams in a match are not in attendance or both have fielded ineligible players, the match will be declared as a non-result draw, i.e. both teams will finish the match with nil points from games, nil players on and nil league points for the match.